IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve that is tube shaped, comprising:

an internal semiconductive layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material, the internal semiconductive layer extending in a central portion in a direction of a length of the sleeve, an inner surface of the internal semiconductive layer defining a substantial part of an inner surface of the sleeve;

a reinforced insulation layer that is formed at least around the internal semiconductive layer to reinforce the internal semiconductive layer and extends on both sides of the internal semiconductive layer along the longitudinal direction of the sleeve;

an external semiconductive layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material, the semiconductive layer being molded around and extending over a part of the reinforced insulation layer; and

two stress-relief cones, ~~wherein~~ one stress-relief cone [[is]] being formed at each end of the ~~cold-shrinkable type elastic~~ sleeve, each at a distance from the internal semiconductive layer along the longitudinal direction of the sleeve as intervened by the reinforced insulation layer and each being covered around a part of an external surface thereof by the reinforced insulation layer, with an external end portion, with respect to the internal semiconductive layer, of an outer periphery of each stress-relief cone being uncovered by the reinforced insulation layer~~; and~~,

~~two edge-cut sections, each edge-cut section is formed near each of the stress-relief cones by edge-cutting the external semiconductive layer in a direction of a length of the cold-~~

~~shrinkable type elastic sleeve~~ wherein an inner surface of the internal semiconductive layer, an open inner surface of the reinforced insulation layer, and an inner surface of each of the stress-relief cones define an inner surface of the sleeve and the external semiconductive layer extends over an external surface of the reinforced insulation layer such that a length of the external semiconductive layer in the longitudinal direction of the sleeve is substantially the same as a total length of a region including the inner surface of the internal semiconductive layer and the open inner surface of the reinforced insulation layer, thereby leaving a portion of the reinforced insulation layer on each end of the sleeve uncovered by the external semiconductive layer.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve according to claim 5, wherein the external semiconductive layer is substantially cylindrical.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve according to claim 5, wherein a thickness of the external semiconductive layer is substantially uniform.

Claim 9 (Original): A method of manufacturing a cold-shrinkable type rubber sleeve, comprising:

forming a tube of an internal semiconductive layer with an elastic material and a semiconductive material;

forming a reinforced insulation layer around the internal semiconductive layer to reinforce the internal semiconductive layer;

forming an external semiconductive layer around the reinforced insulation layer with an elastic material and a semiconductive material;

forming a stress-relief cone at each end of the cold-shrinkable type rubber sleeve; and

insulating the external semiconductive layer from both the stress-relief cones.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve ~~that is tube-shaped, comprising:~~ according to claim 5

~~an internal semiconductor layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material;~~

~~a reinforced insulation layer that is formed around the internal semiconductive layer to reinforce the internal semiconductive layer;~~

~~an external semiconductive layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material, and is formed around the reinforced insulation layer;~~

~~two stress-relief cones, wherein one stress-relief cone is formed at each end of the cold-shrinkable type rubber sleeve; and~~

~~two edge-cut sections, each edge-cut section is formed near each of the stress-relief cones by edge-cutting the external semiconductive layer in a direction of a length of the cold-shrinkable type rubber sleeve,~~

wherein the cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve is supported on a disassemblable carrier in an expanded state.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve according to claim 10, wherein the disassemblable carrier ~~includes~~ further comprises:

a disassemble carrier pipe.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve according to claim [[10]] 5, wherein the elastic material includes one material selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene rubber and silicone rubber.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve according to claim 10, wherein the elastic material includes [[one]] material selected from the group consisting of ethylene-propylene rubber and silicone rubber.

Claims 14-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve that is tube shaped, comprising:

an internal semiconductive layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material;

a reinforced insulation layer that is formed around the internal semiconductive layer to reinforce the internal semiconductive layer;

an external semiconductive layer that includes an elastic material and a semiconductive material, and is formed around the reinforced insulation layer; and

two stress-relief cones, wherein one stress-relief cone is formed at each end of the cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ rubber sleeve, and a part of the reinforced insulation layer extends around each of the stress-relief cone to embed one end of each stress-relief cone therein,

wherein at least a portion of the part of the reinforced insulation layer that extends around each of the stress-relief cones in a direction of a length of the cold-shrinkable ~~type~~ elastic sleeve is uncovered by the external semiconductive layer to be exposed, and

wherein the cold-shrinkable type elastic sleeve is supported on a disassemblable carrier in an expanded state.

Claim 17 (New): A cold-shrinkable elastic sleeve that is tube shaped, comprising:

a reinforced insulation layer that is tube shaped, having an internal periphery and an external periphery;

two stress-relief cones provided on respective ends of an internal periphery of the reinforced insulation layer;

an internal semiconductive layer on the inner periphery of the reinforced insulation layer between the stress-relief cones at a distance from each of the stress-relief cones in a direction of a length of the sleeve;

an external semiconductive layer provided on a central portion of the outer periphery of the reinforced insulation layer; and

two external insulation portions each being constituted by an end of an external portion of the sleeve which is free of the external semiconductive layer.

Claim 18 (New): The cold-shrinkable elastic sleeve according to claim 17, wherein the external semiconductive layer is absent in a region in a direction of a length of the sleeve between the end of the sleeve and a point on an inner periphery of the sleeve at which the reinforced insulation layer and the stress-relief cone contacts.

Claim 19 (New): The cold-shrinkable elastic sleeve according to claim 18, wherein the external semiconductive layer is molded and has a constant inner diameter and a constant outer diameter, and a uniform thickness.

Claim 20 (New): A cold-shrinkable elastic sleeve that is tube shaped, comprising:

a reinforced insulation layer that is tube shaped, having an internal periphery and an external periphery;

two stress-relief cones provided on respective ends of an internal periphery of the sleeve and having a portion protruding in a direction of a length of the sleeve;

an internal semiconductive layer on the inner periphery of the reinforced insulation layer between the stress-relief cones at a distance from each of the stress-relief cones in a direction of a length of the sleeve;

an external semiconductive layer molded on a central portion of the outer periphery of the reinforced insulation layer and having a constant inner diameter and a constant outer diameter, and a uniform thickness, wherein the central portion is a portion inside, in a direction of a length of the sleeve, of a point on an inner periphery of the sleeve at which the reinforced insulation layer and the stress-relief corn contacts; and

two external insulation portions, each including an end of an external portion of the sleeve which is free of the external semiconductive layer.

Claim 21 (New): A method of using tube shaped, cold-shrinkable elastic sleeve, the sleeve having a reinforced insulation layer that is tube shaped, having an internal periphery and an external periphery, two stress-relief cones provided on respective ends of an internal periphery of the reinforced insulation layer, an internal semiconductive layer on the inner periphery of the reinforced insulation layer between the stress-relief cones at a distance from each of the stress-relief cones in a direction of a length of the sleeve, an external semiconductive layer provided on a central portion of the outer periphery of the reinforced insulation layer, and two external insulation portions each being constituted by an end of an

external portion of the sleeve which is free of the external semiconductive layer, the method comprising:

wrapping a semiconductive tape around one of the two external insulation portions to bring one of the stress-relief cones and the external semiconductive layer into a conduction state.